

ATTY DOCKET NO. 6173/30US

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

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1. (Currently Amended) A method for coordinating charging information in a communications network, the method comprising:
a mobile station establishing initiating a communication first connection in an application layer and a second connection in a transportation layer;
generating a globally-unique charging identification in a first network element in one of the application layer or the transport layer; and associating said globally-unique charging identification with said communication connection; and
sending said globally-unique charging identification from said first network element in said one of the application layer or the transport layer to a second network element in the other one of the application layer or the transport layer;
including said charging identification in call records of said first and second network elements; and
coordinating charging information in the communications network using said charging identification included in the call records of said first and second network elements.
 2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said second network element use adds said globally-unique charging identification to collect charging information which said second network element collects.
 3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said first network element sends an globally-unique charging identification includes the address of the first a network element together with said charging identification to said second network element.
 4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 3, wherein said second network elements adds said address of a network element to charging information which said second network element collects communication channel is a Packet Data Protocol (PDP) context.
 5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said globally-unique charging identification is sent from said first network element to said second network element via an

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interface between the transport and application layers generated by a GGSN.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 1, wherein said first network element is a Mobile Station (MS) and the Mobile Station provides the charging identification to both of the application layer and the transport layer.

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said first network element sends security information together with said charging identification to said second network element is a Gateway GPRS Support Node (GGSN).

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 8, wherein said second network element verifies said charging identification against said security information is a Call State Control Function (GSCF).

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10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said second network element sends said globally-unique charging identification towards an endpoint of a communication.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein said second network element sends security information together with said globally-unique charging identification to toward said endpoint of a communication second network.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein said second network sends an address of a network element together with collects charging data using said globally-unique charging identification to said endpoint of a communication and prepares billing using the collected charging data.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein said second network element adds an address of said first network element to collects charging data from a plurality of call detail records associated with which said second network element collects globally-unique charging identification.

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14. (Currently Amended) ~~The A method of claim 1 for coordinating information between a transport layer and an application layer in a communication network, wherein the method comprising:~~

~~initiating a transaction in a first network element in an application layer;~~
~~assigning a tuple for each communication connection within said transaction;~~
~~initiating a communication connection in said first network element is in said transport application layer; and~~
~~associating said communication connection with said transaction using said tuple or tuple pair.~~

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein said charging identification tuple or tuple pair is forwarded to said a second network element in said application layer.

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16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein said charging identification tuple or tuple pair is forwarded to a third network element and a fourth network element in said a transport layer.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein charging information generated by said fourth network element and said third network element in said transport layer and by the second network element in said application layer is associated with said charging identification tuple or tuple pair.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14 ~~19~~, wherein said tuple includes a destination IP address and port information of a transaction specific media connection.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~15~~ 1, wherein the charging identification comprises a tuple or tuple pair ~~said second network element is a CSCE.~~

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

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22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said charging identification is sent from said first network element to said second network element via the mobile station, and the mobile station includes the charging identification in a request to setup the communication connection in a Packet Data Protocol (PDP) context in the other one of the application layer of the transport layer.

23. (Cancelled).

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24. (Currently Amended) A system for coordinating charging information in between a an communications network application layer and a transport layer, the system comprising:
means for initiating a transaction in a first network element and a second network element, adapted to include in a charging identification in their call records application layer;
means for assigning coordinating charging information using said charging identification included in the call records of a tuple or tuple pair to said first and second network elements transaction;
means for initiating establishing a first communication connection in an application layer and a second connection in a transport layer, said first network element being adapted to create the charging identification in of said an application layer or said transport layer; and
means for associating sending said charging identification communication connection with from said first network element in transaction using said one of the application layer or the transport layer to the second network element in the other one of the application layer or the transport layer tuple or tuple pair.

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25. (New) The system of claim 24, further comprising a mobile station operable to initiate the first connection in the application layer and the second connection in the transport layer.

26. (New) The system of claim 24, wherein the charging identification comprises a tuple or tuple pair.

27. (New) The system of claim 24, wherein said charging identification is sent from said first network element to said second network element directly via an interface between the first and second network elements.

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28. (New) The system of claim 26, wherein the first network element comprises a Gateway GPRS Support Node and the second network element comprises a Call State Control Function.
29. (New) The system of claim 24, wherein said charging identification is sent from the first network element to the second network element via the mobile station, and the mobile station includes the charging identification in a request to set up the connection in the other one of the application layer or the transport layer.
30. (New) The system of claim 28, wherein said second network element in said application layer comprises a Call State Control Function.
31. (New) The system of claim 29, wherein said connection in said transport layer comprises a PDP context.
32. (New) The system of claim 24, wherein said mobile station comprises the first network element, and the mobile station provides the charging identification to both of the application layer and the transport layer.
33. (New) A mobile station for use to coordinate charging information in a communications network including a first network element and a second network element operable to include a charging identification in their call records, and means for coordinating charging information using said charging identification included in the call records of said first and second network elements, the mobile station is adapted:
- to establish a first connection in an application layer and a second connection in a transport layer;
 - to receive the charging identification from the first network element in one of the application layer or the transport layer; and
 - to send said charging identification, to the second network element in the other one of the application layer or the transport layer.
34. (New) The mobile station of claim 33, wherein the mobile station is adapted to receive the charging identification (Id) created by the first network element (GGSN) in one of the application layer or the transport layer.

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35. (New) The mobile station of claim 33, wherein the mobile station is adapted to send to the second network element an address corresponding to the first network element together with said received charging identification.

36. (New) The mobile station of claim 33, wherein the mobile station comprises the first network element and provides the charging identification to both of the application layer and the transport layer.

37. (New) The mobile station of claim 33, comprising a mobile terminal and terminal equipment coupled thereto.

38. (New) A network element for use in coordinating charging information, the network element including

means to create a charging identification for use in one of an application layer or a transport layer for a communications network wherein a first connection is established in the application layer and a second connection is established in the transport layer;

means to include the charging identification the call records thereof, and

means for sending said charging identification from said network element so as to be used by the further network element in the other one of the application layer or the transport layer, to enable charging information for the elements to be coordinated.

39. (New) A network element for use in coordinating charging information, the network element being configured for use in one of an application layer or a transport layer for the communications network wherein a first connection is established in the application layer and a second connection is established in the transport layer, said network element being configured to receive said charging identification from a further network element operable in the other one of the application layer or the transport layer, to enable charging information for the elements to be coordinated.

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